

Grade 7 Sample Test Prompt

Ideas & Content

Going to the movies is a major source of entertainment for many students. Imagine that the only discount theater in your area is closing.

Write a persuasive essay in support of keeping the discount movie theater open .

Your writing should:

- Include a thesis statement .
- Have a developed point of view .
- Have an introduction, body, and conclusion .

Remember to edit for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

AIMS Six Trait Analytic Writing Rubric – Official Scoring Guide

IDEAS and CONTENT

<p>6</p> <p>The writing is exceptionally clear, focused and interesting. It holds the reader’s attention throughout. Main ideas stand out and are developed by strong support and rich details suitable to audience and purpose. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarity, focus, and control. • main idea(s) that stand out. • supporting, relevant, carefully selected details; when appropriate, use of resources provides strong, accurate, credible support • a thorough, balanced, in-depth explanation/ exploration of the topic; the writing makes connections and shares insights. • content and selected details that are well suited to audience and purpose. 	<p>5</p> <p>The writing is clear, focused and interesting. It holds the reader’s attention. Main ideas stand out and are developed by supporting details suitable to audience and purpose. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarity, focus, and control. • main idea(s) that stand out. • supporting, relevant, carefully selected details; when appropriate, use of resources provides strong, accurate, credible support. • a thorough, balanced explanation/exploration of the topic; the writing makes connections and shares insights. • content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose. 	<p>4</p> <p>The writing is clear and focused. The reader can easily understand the main ideas. Support is present, although it may be limited or rather general. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an easily identifiable purpose. • clear main idea(s) • supporting details that are relevant, but may be overly general or limited in places; when appropriate, resources are used to provide accurate support. • a topic that is explored/explained, although developmental details may occasionally be out of balance with the main idea(s); some connections and insights may be present. • content and selected details that are relevant, but perhaps not consistently well chosen for audience and purpose.
<p>3</p> <p>The reader can understand the main ideas, although they may be overly broad or simplistic, and the results may not be effective. Supporting detail is often limited, insubstantial, overly general, or occasionally slightly off-topic. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an easily identifiable purpose and main idea(s). • predictable or overly-obvious main ideas or plot; conclusions or main points seem to echo observations heard elsewhere. • support that is attempted; but developmental details that are often limited in scope, uneven, somewhat off-topic, predictable, or overly general. • details that may not be well-grounded in credible resources; they may be based on clichés, stereotypes or questionable sources of information. • difficulties when moving from general observations to specifics. 	<p>2</p> <p>Main ideas and purpose are somewhat unclear or development is attempted but minimal. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a purpose and main idea(s) that may require extensive inferences by the reader. • minimal development; insufficient details. • irrelevant details that clutter the text. • extensive repetition of detail. 	<p>1</p> <p>The writing lacks a central idea or purpose. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ideas that are extremely limited or simply unclear. • attempts at development that are minimal or non-existent; the paper is too short to demonstrate the development of an idea.

Writing

FINAL COPY


MY REASON IS THE THEATER HAVE THAN OPEN BECAUSE THAT
THEATER IS EXPENSIVE AND I CAN SEE NEWS MOVIES AND OLD
MOVIES THE THING STAY EXPENSIVE SODAS, CANDY, POPCORN,
HOT DOGS ANY THINGS THAT THEATER IS VERY CLEAN
THE TOILET, WALL, FLOOR AND MIRRORS BUT THAT THEATER
IS VERY OLD FOR OUTSIDE. THATS MY REASON.

Score point 1 – Ideas are limited and unclear. Attempts at development are minimal. The writer's ideas (expensive, news movies and old movies, candy, popcorn, clean toilets, etc.) are a list without details or development.

Writing**FINAL COPY**

Thier is a movie theater in the area that has discounts and it is closing by keeping it open we can go to the theater once in a while that might kept the movie theater open or someone can take over the movie theater and it will not be close down.

Score point 2 – Main idea and purpose are somewhat unclear and require extensive inferences by the reader. There is minimal development.

Page 4**Go On** 

Writing**FINAL COPY**

To the owner of the Richardson movie theater,

I am writing to you about why I think the Richardson movie theater should stay open. I will be giving you intellect on why the movie theater should stay open.

I think the Richardson movie theater should stay open so that people could go there to watch movies and to summer down.

Kids and teens can go there to have fun or to keep their minds off of getting into trouble. Kids need a place to hang out at and most kids choose the movie theater. When they hang out, they like to stay in the neighborhood, so they go to the neighborhood movie theater, which in this case is the Richardson movie theater.

They go there to mostly hang-out or watch movies with their friends. Also, when people go to the

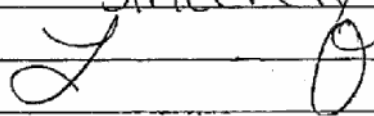
Page 4**Go On** 

Writing**FINAL COPY**

movies, they are learning. Everytime they see a movie, they learn something new. People always get at least a little education from watching movies. You always get your brain pumping when you watch movies. The main thing to have a movie theater is for the entertainment. Everyone needs entertainment in their life.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I hope you consider what I said.

Sincerely yours,



Score point 3 – The reader can understand the main ideas, although they are simplistic and not effective. Supporting detail is limited, overly general and occasionally slightly off-topic (“...simmer down...”) . Main points seem to echo observations heard elsewhere (“...kids need a place to hang out...”) .

Writing**FINAL COPY**

I think that the only discount theatre in town should be kept open. A lot of kids go there, and it's our only source of fun and relaxation. It would really help our town if it was left open. And also us kids don't have a lot of money, so a discount really helps us out.

First of all, a lot of kids go to the theatre to see movies. We go there after school and whenever. And it's really fun to go there and just sit back and watch a movie. When you watch a movie it takes you away from reality and you're in your own little world. So for any of us kids who have problems in our lives it helps us because we can get away from all that for a while.

Second, keeping the theatre would really help our town. There would be less kids doing drugs and alcohol if the theatre was open because that gives us something to do. And there would be less suicides and stuff like that because kids do things like that because they have no let outs for their problems. And the movies is a lot out.

Lastly, we go to that theatre in the 1st place because it's a discount theatre. We don't have a lot of money so this is the 1st place we go to. I mean

Writing

FINAL COPY

some of us don't get allowance so it really helps us to have a discount theatre here.

I hope the town will consider leaving the theatre open after this. All kids would appreciate a refuge to go to when our problems get too heavy. It would really help the town to leave it open. And people with money problems would have the joys of seeing a movie.

Score point 4 – The writing is clear and focused. Support is present, although it is limited and general. Content and selected details are relevant, but perhaps not consistently well-chosen for audience and purpose. Referencing suicide is not appropriate.

Writing**FINAL COPY**

There are many reasons the local movie theater should be kept open. By closing it, many bad things might take place, employees would lose their job, there would be less things to talk about, and there would be many angry people. Hopefully after you read this, you will change your mind about closing the movie theater down. In the following sentences I will explain why the movie theater should be kept up.

Since the movie theater is the major source of entertainment for many kids, kids will get bored and do destructive things if they do not have anything to do. For example, if a group of kids go see a movie every Friday night, they will have to change their routine if the movie theater closes. Instead of watching a movie kids might spray paint walls with inappropriate language, string toilet paper all over someone's yard, or even get in fights with other kids. Also, kids might vandalize store or people's houses addition to the other destruction I have mentioned. All of this might take place if kids have nothing to do. By keeping the movie theater up, will keep more kids out of trouble.

Furthermore, employees running the movie theater will lose their job. Some teenagers working there might be saving for college and if they lose their job, it will be hard for them to look for another job. Also, if they earn a one dollar

Writing**FINAL COPY**

raise a year and an employee had been working five years, he/she would be making five extra dollars an hour. By losing that job, they would have to start over and work up to earning a raise. They might not have that much time if they were saving for college and are going to enter college soon. Theater employees would be happy if they kept their job and the theater is kept open.

Continuing, there would be less things to talk about among friends. I am sure many groups of friends always see a movie every weekend and then discuss the movie the following Monday. If the movie theater closed down, the group of friends would have about two options: drive a long way to another movie theater or buy a movie every time they want to see a movie. Most likely these group of friends will not enjoy going out of their way to see a movie. Therefore, they will have less things to talk about.

Finally, there would be many angry and disappointed people if the movie theater closed. People might get cranky and even go on strike. Plus, you would lose business and money by closing the movie theater. I strongly suggest that you do not close the movie theater down for the reasons I have just stated.

Score point 5 – Main ideas stand out. There is clarity, focus, and control and a thorough, balanced explanation of the topic. Shared insights focus on students as consumers, students as workers, parents, and the general public.



Writing**FINAL COPY**

This theatre that you have chosen to close should not be taken away from these that it is important to. This theatre is drastically needed more than you think it is. Everyday, thousands of children and families attend all of the interesting, exciting, affordable movies that are shown there at that very theatre. If it is closed, I ask you, what is there to look forward to. This theatre means so much to this city, and it plays such an important role in the life of many of the innocent children that occupy it. If this theatre is taken away, so many memories will be lost forever.

I remember so many times when I was a small child, I would wake up early on a bright, beautiful, Saturday morning and sit there and wonder about what movie I should see today. So I would then think to myself, "Should I see one of those breathtaking mysteries that keeps you guessing until the very end? Or maybe I could go to a horrifying, thrilling, monster movie that gives you nightmares for the next three weeks." But whatever movie I decided on, I was never once in my life disappointed one bit.

I'm not the only one who has enjoyed the opportunities given at this theatre. Men, women, and children all around the city feel the same compassion. This theatre is definitely one of the best things that has happened to this town. So far, it has always been that if you wanted to see a movie, there was no hassle at all. Families and friends to go to a movie of their choice and not have to worry about paying too

Writing**FINAL COPY**

much or not being able to afford it. The theatre is a way for people express and enjoy themselves and the company of their surroundings.

If you close this theatre, you will be taking much more away from us than a beaten down, old, worthless building. You will be taking the joy and memories that have taken place and the ones that would be destined to follow. I am begging you with all my heart to please not do this to our community. Please, just think about what you are doing. Don't take away possibly the one thing that makes this city so pure and true. The theatre means too much to everyone to just throw it away and forget about it completely.

Score point 6 – The writing is exceptionally clear, focused, and interesting. It holds the reader's attention throughout. The writer has offered a thorough, balanced, in-depth explanation and the writing makes connections and shares insights. Content and selected details are well-suited to audience and purpose. The writer offers his/her own perspective and then that of the community.